

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:600

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006

REPAIRING OF AIRCRAFT

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Airlines(IA) is facing problem in getting aircraft repaired due to shortage of spare parts;
- (b) if so, the number of aircraft grounded as a result thereof;
- (c) the loss of revenue to the IA due to such delay in repairing of aircraft; and
- (d) the steps taken by the IA for getting the aircraft repaired expeditiously?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b): Normally, about 6 A-320 aircraft remain grounded for scheduled maintenance. Presently, 12 A-320 aircraft are grounded for major maintenance/ want of engines as also for scheduled maintenance checks and not due to shortage of spare parts.

(c): The exact loss of revenue is difficult to compute as different aircraft are under scheduled maintenance & other wise for different periods of time.

(d): Since the grounding of aircraft is primarily due to shortage of engines, Indian Airlines Ltd. is vigorously pursuing all possible means to increase engine availability through outsourcing of engine overhaul to outside agencies, continued retention of 3 short-term leased engines till January/February, 2007, leasing three more engines on short-terms basis and implementing an engine upgrade program.